

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, are respectfully requested. Claims 1-8 are cancelled and new claims 9-13 are added. Applicant believes that new claims 9-13 patentably define over all of the references of record, taken singly or in combination.

In our claim 9 light-emission display panel, the hydrophilic portion is arranged between the water repellant portion and the light-transmitting electrode and forms a shoulder protruding to a position closer to the center of said opening than the water repellent portion. This structure increases the area of the hydrophilic portion I of the inner wall. During manufacture of the display panel, a predetermined amount of water-soluble polymer solution is jetted into the opening by an ink jet process to form the light-emission layer. At this time, the polymer solution repelled by the water repellent portion is easily spread on the hydrophilic portion and guided to the light-transmitting electrode. As a result, unevenness in the thickness of the light-emission layer can be reduced. Since the hydrophilic portion is able to have a satisfactory contact with the light-emission layer, an increase in the area of the hydrophilic portion makes it difficult for the light-emission layer to be removed from the light-transmitting electrode due to the thermal or mechanical stress applied thereto.

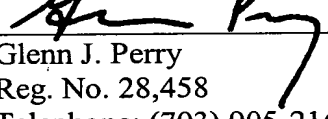
Yamada (U.S. Patent 6,246,179) teaches the use of an opening formed in an insulating film (19, 17). This insulating film (19, 17) includes a hydrophilic portion which serves as an inner wall defining the opening. However, no water repellent portion is associated with the hydrophilic portion. Thus, the materials for layers (62, 63, 64) are not repelled in the opening. Accordingly, this reference does not suggest reducing unevenness in the thickness of a multi-layer having layers (62, 63, 64) caused by the water repellent portion. Further, this

reference fails to teach or suggest any technique that increases the area of the hydrophilic portion in the inner wall without changing the area of the water repellent portion.

Tamura (JP 0206008) discloses a water repellent film (10) incorporated in a thin film EL panel. However, the water repellent film 10 does not define an opening that receives a light emitting layer (4). Thus, our claimed inventions are not obtained even by combining the teachings of Yamada and Tamura.

All outstanding matters having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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